

Outreach Education

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area

National Park Service



Grade 2, Pre-Visit Activity, "Water: The Continuing Cycle"

Name: _____

Instructions: Review the vocabulary words and complete the activity on the back of this sheet.

VOCABULARY

Natural Resource: An item found in nature that is available for our use

Condensation: The process by which water vapor in the air cools to form tiny droplets of water in the clouds

Conservation: Using a natural resource wisely

Evaporation: The process by which water changes from a liquid to a gas

Ground Water: Water beneath the surface of the earth

Precipitation: Water falling to the earth as a liquid (rain) or a solid (snow, hail)

Rain: Precipitation in the form of liquid water

Snow: A crystal made of frozen water vapor falling to earth as precipitation

Surface Water: Water which has accumulated on top of the ground

Thermal Pollution: Polluting water by increasing its temperature; may cause plants and animals to die

Cycle: Continuing process in which something is used over and over again

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Instructions: Sing the "Water Cycle Song" several times as a class. Then fill in the blanks in the paragraph below, using words from the vocabulary section.

Water Cycle Song

(to the tune of "She'll be coming 'round the mountain")

Water travels in a cycle yes it does,
Water travels in a cycle yes it does,
It goes up as *evaporation*
Forms clouds as *condensation*
And comes down as *precipitation*
Yes it does!

The water cycle has no beginning and no end. It keeps going and going. For example, if we water our lawn, some of the water will be absorbed by the soil and the plants. Some of the water will seep down through the soil and become

_____. Some of the water will collect in pools on the ground. This water is called _____. It will then be heated by the sun and will change from a liquid to a gas called water vapor. This process is called _____. The ground water may be pumped up through a well in someone's backyard, and they may use it to wash their dishes. The water vapor will collect in the clouds and eventually, the water will fall to the earth as rain or _____.

All the people, plants, and animals on earth need water to survive. We need to use water carefully and not pollute it. Using water wisely is called

_____.

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Grade 2, Post-Visit Activity, "Water: The Continuing Cycle"

Name: _____

Instructions: Draw a smiling face on the children that are conserving water (using it wisely) and a sad face on the children that are wasting water. Then color the page.



= conserving water



= wasting water

